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APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
08/541,516	10/10/95	KURUVILLA	K

E6M1/1025

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EXAMINER

MULLEN, T

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2617

6

DATE MAILED: 10/25/96

This is a communication from the examiner in charge of your application.
COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS

OFFICE ACTION SUMMARY

- ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____
- ☐ This action is FINAL.
- ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 D.C. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Disposition of Claims

- ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- ☒ Claim(s) 6-8 is/are allowed.
- ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are rejected.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

- ☒ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.
- ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.
- ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
- ☐ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been
- ☐ received.
- ☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____
- ☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

- ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of Reference Cited, PTO-892
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). 2
- ☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413
- ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

-- SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES --

1. This application has been filed with informal drawings which are acceptable for examination purposes only. Formal drawings will be required when the application is allowed.

2. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: on page 6, line 17, "a" should be deleted; and on page 7, line 11, "45" should be --47--.

Appropriate correction is required.

3. Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

At the end of claim 1, "or the like" is indefinite since it is unclear how much this phrase broadens the scope of "wall" and/or "vehicle", i.e. it is unclear what other types of elements are encompassed by this claim limitation, and what other types of elements are not so encompassed.

In claim 2, line 2, after "comprises" should be inserted --a--.

4. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention. There is no mention in the specification of the "musical tones" recited in claim 4, line 5.

5. Claims 1-5 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112 set forth in this Office action. Claims 6-8 are allowed.

Regarding claim 1, the preamble (lines 1-3) is accorded the weight of a distinguishing limitation in view of the reference to "said automatic door warning system" on line 12 (see In re Casey, 152 USPQ 235 (CCPA 1967)), and none of the art of record teaches or suggests an automatic door warning system "for use in conjunction with...public transportation vehicles having automatic doors".

Art Unit 2617

Regarding claim 6, Mandel et al. (see paragraph 6 below) is considered the closest prior art, but fails to teach any type of alarm or message other than an audio message; at the time of the invention one skilled in the art would not have found the motivation to combine the other alarms/messages claimed (message display area, "sounds" and visual warning means) with the audio message taught by Mandel et al.

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

The art cited by applicant is made of record. Mandel et al., Kitano, Mosley et al., Hawkins, Billingsley, Smith, Fritz et al. and the UK application are cited to further show the state of the art.


7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tom Mullen whose telephone number is (703) 305-4382. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri. from 7:30AM to 4:00PM (EST).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeff Hofsass, can be reached on (703) 305-4717. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 305-3988.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-8576.

T.Mullen

October 22, 1996


THOMAS MULLEN
PATENT EXAMINER
GROUP 2600